

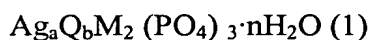
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) An antimicrobial composition comprising:

tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles represented by Formula (1); and
inorganic compound particles having a Mohs hardness of equal to or less than 6;
the maximum particle size of these particles being substantially equal to or less than 10
μm



(in the formula, Q denotes at least one type of ion selected from the group consisting of an alkali metal ion, an alkaline earth metal ion, ammonium ion, and hydrogen ion, M is a tetravalent metal ion, \underline{n} is a number satisfying $0 \leq n \leq 6$, \underline{a} and \underline{b} are both positive numbers, \underline{m} is the valence of Q, and $a + mb = 1$).

2. (Original) The antimicrobial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles and the inorganic compound particles have an average particle size of 0.1 to 5 μm.

3. (Original) The antimicrobial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the average particle size of the inorganic compound particles is smaller than the average particle size of the tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles.

4. (Original) The antimicrobial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the inorganic compound particles are anatase titanium dioxide having no photocatalytic activity.

5. (Original) The antimicrobial composition according to Claim 1, wherein the mixing ratio of the tetravalent metal phosphate-based antimicrobial particles and the inorganic compound particles is 95:5 to 10:90.

6. (Currently Amended) An antimicrobial product comprising the antimicrobial composition according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 1 to 5.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~The antimicrobial product comprising the antimicrobial composition according to Claim 2.6, ~~wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.~~

8. (New) An antimicrobial product comprising the antimicrobial composition according to Claim 3.

9. (New) An antimicrobial product comprising the antimicrobial composition according to Claim 4.

10. (New) An antimicrobial product comprising the antimicrobial composition according to Claim 5.

11. (New) The antimicrobial product according to Claim 6, wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.

12. (New) The antimicrobial product according to Claim 7, wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.

13. (New) The antimicrobial product according to Claim 8, wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.

14. (New) The antimicrobial product according to Claim 9, wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.

15. (New) The antimicrobial product according to Claim 10, wherein the antimicrobial product is an antimicrobial fiber or an antimicrobial film.